

Brass Techniques - Fall 2009

Syllabus

Course Number

Music 176 sec. 001; 10:20-11:20; M, W; room AC/N 14

Instructor

Dr. Leigh-Ann Lethco
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Office Hours

Monday and Wednesday 12:00-1:00 or by appointment or walk-in

Course Fee

Students who use one or more UW Oshkosh instruments for this course will be assessed a \$15.00 rental fee. Checks are written to UW Oshkosh and submitted to the instructor by the date on the course calendar.

Texts and Materials

- 1) *Teaching Brass: A Resource Manual* (2nd Edition) by Bailey, et al. McGraw-Hill (2008)
- 2) *Brass Techniques Course Packet* by Lethco; available at Bookstore
- 3) *Accent on Achievement*, O'Reilly and Williams, to be handed out in class and returned in clean condition (replacement cost is \$6.95).
- 4) Instruments to be checked out through the instructor. Students are responsible for their care while in their possession as per instrument contract form signed for each instrument.
- 5) Cassette tape and recorder (a tape recorder will be available for your use) or a similar personal recording device.

General Objectives

- 1) To develop performance skills on three of the following: trumpet, trombone, euphonium, horn, and tuba. Students will demonstrate competence in the following areas: posture, hand position, breathing, embouchure, tone production, articulation, instrument assembly, instrument care and maintenance, standard and alternate fingerings, among other skills idiomatic to each brass instrument.
- 2) To gain knowledge in and develop a basic understanding of all instruments in the brass family including sound production, basic acoustical processes and performance characteristics.
- 3) To develop skills in the basic care and maintenance of all brass instruments.

- 4) Through performance, personal skill development, and assessment project, to develop basic skills in the structuring of successful learning experiences through the effective delivery of succinct instruction, the elicitation of correct student responses, and the communication of appropriate feedback.
- 5) To develop skills of observation (aural and visual) as a means of assessing yours and others performance skills and identifying and implementing prescriptive strategies.
- 6) To develop professional skills necessary for success in any music or non-music occupation including attending class, arriving and departing to and from class as scheduled, and bringing all required materials to teach class.

Specific Objectives

- 1) Read assigned material as indicated on the daily calendar.
- 2) Complete study guides as indicated on the daily calendar.
- 3) Three Performance Exams: (trumpet, trombone, horn, euphonium, tuba: to be assigned by instructor). Individual exams to be scheduled outside of class meetings. Exam criteria are as follows:
 - a) formation of correct embouchure
 - b) proper use of air stream
 - c) correct articulation (tongue and slur)
 - d) correct hand and body positions
 - e) identification of note fingerings in random arrangement
 - f) two major scales (F and B-flat)
 - g) one chromatic scale (B-flat, one octave)
 - h) assigned exercises/ demonstrations from class playing (material to be assigned for each exam)
 - i) demonstration and/or identification of features idiomatic to each instrument including those related to care and maintenance

- Students will be assigned class instruments based upon student need, availability of instruments, and instructor discretion. The instructor reserves the right to assign instruments and make all final decisions on instrument assignments.

- Students will be permitted to play each scale and exercise from beginning to end one time only--no stops and re-starts. Choose tempos with this in mind.

- No instrument can be learned at the last minute. Practice your secondary instrument each day. Bad things happen to those who procrastinate.

- 4) 4 Check-Ups: Short written tests on knowledge of fingerings, embouchure formation, instrument holding techniques, basic acoustical processes, care and maintenance, chapter questions, class topics, and instrument worksheets in packet. These will have a time-limit and will be administered at the beginning of the class. Students late to class may not have extended time.

- 5) Midterm Examination: (Written) Predominantly first two instrument segments, but will include other topics covered in class.
- 6) Authentic Assessment Project: Teach one, twenty minute lesson to a beginning brass student. Detailed instructions are included in course packet.
- 7) Attend class Regularly: Most performance experience as well as evaluation skills will come from in-class activities and therefore attendance is vital to the objectives of this course.
- 8) Course Materials/Equipment: Bring all course materials and instrument equipment to each class.

Grading Distribution

Playing Tests	35%	(3-equally weighted)
Check-ups	15	(4-equally weighted)
Chapter Questions	13	(3-equally weighted)
Midterm Exam	10	
Authentic Assessment Project (final)	15	
Attendance	10	(see distribution below)
Course Materials	2	
Reading Assignments	CB	(competency based)
TOTAL	100%	

- Written assignments are due at the beginning of class. Points will be lost for late assignments. No written assignments will be accepted after 24 hours of due date.
- Your signature for your performance exam is considered a contract. The instructor reserves the right to refuse make-up performance exams or to deduct points.
- Attendance (absences for ANY reason): 0-1 absences = 10 points; 2 absences = 8 points; 3 absences = 7 points; 4-5 absences = 5 points; 6 or more absences = 0 points.
- Make-up exams or quizzes and assignments will be allowed for excused absences only. Excused absences are: those requested by the Provost or Dean for an all-university activity, those for illness verified by the University Health Service or a private physician, those for a death in the family, or those cleared in advance with the instructor. All absences should be cleared in advance except in extreme circumstances where it was impossible to contact the instructor.
- Three tardies to class will equal one absence. A tardy is defined as arriving late or leaving class early. Tardies over 10 minutes will be considered an absence.
- One point, with a maximum of two points, will be deducted each time a student forgets any course material (book, instrument, mouthpiece, etc.).
- The instructor reserves the right to raise a course grade in exceptional circumstances.
- No incompletes will be given.
- Grades are not negotiable and are final.

Grading

	<u>Percent</u>
A	100-93%
A/B	92-88
B	87-83
B/C	82-78
C	77-73
C/D	72-68
D	67-63
F	62 and below

Academic Integrity

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh is committed to a standard of academic integrity for all students. The system guidelines state: "Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors." (UWS 14.01, Wisconsin Administrative Code)

Students are subject to disciplinary action for academic misconduct, which is defined in UWS 14.03, Wisconsin Administrative Code.